

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 L-03 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 PRS-01 PA-01

USIA-06 /034 W

----- 027483

R 031255Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3731

INFO AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 0494

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR ZA SF CG

SUBJ: ZAMBIAN CLEARANCE FOR PAN AM OVERFLIGHTS

REF: PRETORIA 157, LUSAKA 130

1. GEORGE DOUBLEDAY, SCHEDULING MANAGER FOR PAN AM OPERATIONS NOW VISITING SOUTH AFRICA, REVIEWED WITH EMBOFFS FEB 3 CURRENT STATUS PAN AM OPERATIONS BETWEEN KINSHASA AND JOHANNESBURG.

2. AT PRESENT PAN AM FLYING THE ROUTE ON CIRCUITOUS ROUTE OVERWATER OFF ANGOLA, BUT THROUGH LUANDA AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL AREA AND THEN VIA SOUTH WEST AFRICA TO JOHANNESBURG. WHILE THIS ROUTE IS SHORTER THAN THE EARLIER ROUTE FROM KINSHASA VIA NAIROBI AND DAR ES SALAAM, IT STILL ADDED ONE HOUR 20 MINUTES TO SCHEDULE WITH CONSEQUENT DELAYS AND COSTS. ALSO PAN AM NOW CONCERNED ABOUT ANGOLAN NAV AIDS FAILING FOR LACK OF MAINTENANCE BECAUSE WESTERN TECHNICIANS ARE NO LONGER AVAILABLE. LUSO BEACON ALREADY OUT OF COMMISSION ALTHOUGH ITS LOSS NOT SERIOUS.

3. DOUBLEDAY THEN RAISED ZAMBIAN OVERFLIGHT CLEARANCE NOTING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT AT LEAST THREE AIRLINES--IBERIA, UTA AND ALITALIA--ARE

OVERFLYING ZAMBIA ON THIS ROUTE. WHILE THEY DO NOT HAVE FORMAL GOZ CLEARANCE THEY FILE ROUTINELY FLIGHT PLANS WITH ATC LUSAKA AND NO OBJECTIONS ARE RAISED TO THEIR OVERFLIGHT.

4. DOUBLEDAY WAS AWARE THAT THE GOZ HAD WISHED TO DEFER DECISION ON FORMAL PAN AM CLEARANCE UNTIL AFTER OAU CONFERENCE BUT, NOTING THAT THIS WAS NOW PAST, INQUIRED IF WE HAD ANY INFORMATION ON STATUS OF CLEARANCES. HE HOPED, EVEN IF GOZ WAS RELUCTANT TO EXTEND FORMAL CLEARANCE, THAT IT WOULD AT LEAST ACQUIESCE IN INFORMAL CLEARANCE BY ACCEPTING PAN AM FLIGHT PLANS FILED WITH ATC LUSAKA. WE NOTED THAT WHILE WE HAD HEARD NOTHING NEW ON THIS QUESTION WE WOULD INQUIRE IF THERE WERE ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS.

5. DOUBLEDAY STATED HE WAS TRAVELING TO NAIROBI FEB 4 TO SEE MICHAELSON, PAN AM REP IN EAST AFRICA AND RETURNING TO THE US FEB 9 WHERE HE WOULD REPORT TO FLANAGAN, PAN AM V.P. FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, ON SITUATION.
BOWDLER

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